

NY TIMES - 9-16-44

Charles Bowles
Dunant of the Red Cross

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

A recent editorial in THE TIMES, "Looking Back to Solferino," interested me especially because, though the Red Cross is the greatest humanitarian effort since the founding of Christianity, very few people know how and by whom it was founded.

Henri Dunant was a sensitive young Genevan with strong altruistic traits, who, though a civilian, chanced to witness the Battle of Solferino (1859) with all its attendant bloody horrors. Not long afterward he published a vivid account of what he had seen ("Souvenir de Solferino"), adding to it some suggestions for the better protection and care of the wounded in battle.

Subsequently he visited all the chancelleries in Europe and eventually persuaded the Swiss Government to invite all nations to send representatives to Geneva in the summer of 1864 to discuss and if possible to act on his humanitarian proposals. At this convention Dunant's dream came true, the Red Cross was founded once and for all time. Let everybody hold in honor the name of Henri Dunant!

Let us remember also the name of Charles Bowles of Boston, the representative of the United States Sanitary Commission, who, when at the convention the reactionary delegates would assert that Dunant's proposals could not be put into practice, would jump to his feet and show documentary evidence that at that very time many of these ideas were proving their value on the battlefields of our Civil War.

FRANCIS ROGERS.

Shinnecock Hills, N. Y., Sept. 14, 1944.

full force of the blow struck between midnight and 1 A. M.

Boston suffered little damage, as the storm swung out into the ocean about twenty miles south of the city. As in most communities, windows were smashed and trees uprooted, but by daybreak wrecking crews had conditions back to normal.

New Bedford, worst hit by the storm, was a whirling mass of falling bricks, wires, trees and glass at the height of the hurricane. Several industrial plants were reported seriously crippled by flood waters. Roofs were blown off houses or caved in, and trees collapsed by the hundreds. Several houses were blown off their foundations. Half the town was in darkness most of the night.

Three yachts and many smaller craft were stranded atop the Fairhaven-New Haven Bridge, which was under about five feet of water at one time. Dan's Place, a nightclub, was swept from its foundation and demolished, with an estimated loss of \$75,000. Three fires started during the night, driving thirty persons into the wild wind.

Rhode Island was pummeled, and in Providence the wind whipped up the waters of Narragansett Bay, backed up into the Providence River and flooded downtown streets.

Trains into Boston from New York were operating normally late today, although all service was canceled last night. Most New York trains were held near Westerly, R. I., taking passengers sixteen to twenty-one hours to reach Boston.

Rhode Island Lists Damage

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 15—Rhode Island estimated its hurricane losses today at approximately \$1,000,000, only a fraction of the \$100,000,000 toll in the late 1938 blow, and, in the words of Gov. J. Howard McGrath, "thanked Al-